

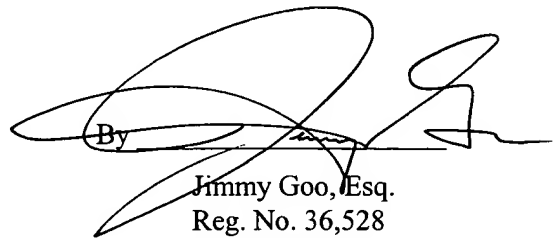
REMARKS

Claims 1-43 are now in this application.

Claims 1 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Dajer et al. (US Patent 6,587,448) in view of Threadgill et al. (US Patent 5,926,745). The Dajer reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based on the earlier effective US filing date of the Dajer reference, the Dajer reference constitutes prior art under 35 USC §102(e). The Dajer reference and the instant application (serial number 09/815,855) were, at the time of invention of application serial number 09/815,855 was made, commonly owned by Lucent Technologies, Inc. Thus, it is felt that this rejection has been overcome by removing the Dajer reference.

Based upon the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully,
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Date: January 7, 2005

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